

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached Replacement sheets of drawings including Figures 1 to 57 are submitted in response to the objections to the drawings as detailed in the Office Action. No new matter has been added. The Replacement sheets replace the original sheets containing Figures 1 to 57. Approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Attachment: forty-three (43) Replacement sheets

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the addition of new claims 12 to 30 and the cancellation herein without prejudice of withdrawn claims 8 to 11, claims 1 to 7 and 12 to 30 are currently pending and being considered in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statements, PTO-1449 papers, and cited references.

II. Objection to the Specification

The Specification has been amended to obviate the objections to the Specification. The amendments reflected in the Substitute Specification are to conform the Specification, including the Title and Abstract, to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules or to correct informalities. As required by 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)(3)(iii) and 1.125(b)(2), a Marked-Up Version of the Substitute Specification comparing the Specification of record and the Substitute Specification also accompanies this Amendment. Approval and entry of the Substitute Specification are respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the objections to the specification is therefore respectfully requested.

III. Objection to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to for not being visually clear. Accordingly, accompanying this Amendment are Replacement Sheets of the drawings. No new matter has been added. Approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of this objection to the drawings is therefore respectfully requested.

IV. Objections to the Claims

Claim 6 was objected to for improper form “because it depends on an unknown claim.” Office Action, p. 7. Accordingly, claim 6 has been amended herein without prejudice to depend from claim 5, thereby obviating the present objection to this claim.

Claims 1, 2, and 5 to 7 were objected to because “acronyms must be written out.” Office Action, p. 7. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, and 5 to 7 have been amended herein without prejudice to obviate the present objections to these claims.

Claims 1 to 7 were objected to “because the lines are crowded too closely together, making reading difficult,” and also because they recite “preferably,” instead of “preferably.” Office Action, p. 8. Claims 1 to 7 have been amended herein without prejudice to obviate the present objections to these claims.

Withdrawal of the objections to claims 1 to 7 is therefore respectfully requested.

V. Rejection of Claims 1 to 7 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1 to 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

Claims 1 to 7 have been amended herein without prejudice, thereby obviating the present rejection. Withdrawal of these rejections to the claims is therefore respectfully requested.

As regards the statement that “optional statements are not giving any patentable weight,” which the Office Action state with respect to the term “or” (Office Action, page 9), Applicants note that the term “or” does not provide merely an option, but rather an alternative. Alternatives are to be given patentable weight, and a reference can be said to disclose the recited feature only if the reference discloses at least one of the alternatives.

VI. Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 have been amended herein without prejudice, thereby obviating the present rejection.

Withdrawal of these rejections to the claims is therefore respectfully requested.

VII. Rejection of Claims 1 to 7 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 to 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Siemers et al., *The >S<Puter: A Novel Microarchitecture Model for Execution Inside Superscalar and VLIW Processors Using Reconfigurable Hardware*, Proceedings of the 3rd Australasian Computer Architecture Conference, February 2-3, 1998. (“Siemers et al.”). It is respectfully submitted that Siemers et al. do not anticipate the present claims for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 relates to a method of processing data, and, as herein amended without prejudice, recites, *inter alia*, the following:

coupling (a) at least one unit adapted for processing data in a sequential manner and comprising an instruction pipeline; and (b) an array adapted for processing data, the array comprising a plurality of data processing cells that are configurable in their function and a configurable network; wherein: the unit is operable independently of the array; and the array is: at least one of coarse grained and runtime reconfigurable; and coupled into the instruction pipeline.

Siemers et al. merely indicate replacing a CPU’s datapath with a reconfigurable unit. A configurable array which is in addition to a data processing unit’s data path and which is, for example, under control of the data processing unit’s instruction pipeline is not provided. Thus, Siemers et al. do not disclose coupling a configurable array into an instruction pipeline of a unit adapted for processing data in a sequential manner, as provided for in the context of claim 1, as presented. Indeed, Siemers et al. do not disclose, or even suggest, any coupling of a unit adapted for sequential processing with a reconfigurable array.

Therefore, Siemers et al. do not identically disclose, or even suggest, all of the features of claim 1, so that Siemers et al. do not anticipate claim 1.

Claims 2 to 4 ultimately depend from claim 1, and therefore include all of the features of claim 1, so that Siemers et al. do not anticipate any of these dependent claims for at least the same reasons set forth above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

Claims 5 and 7, as presented, include subject matter analogous to that of claim 1, so that Siemers et al. do not anticipate claims 5 and 7 for at least essentially the same reasons set forth above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

Claim 6 depends from claim 5, and therefore includes all of the features of claim 5, so that Siemers et al. do not anticipate this dependent claim for at least the same reasons set forth above in support of the patentability of claim 5.

Withdrawal of this anticipation rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

VIII. New Claims 12 to 30

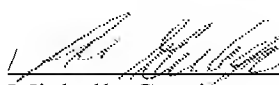
Claims 12 to 30 have been added herein. New claims 12 to 30 do not add any new matter and are fully supported by the present application, including the Specification. Claims 12 to 20 ultimately depend from claim 1, claims 21 to 28 ultimately depend from claim 5, and claims 29 and 30 depend from claim 7, and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 1, 5, and 7, respectively.

IX. Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are therefore earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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